

IN THE CLAIMS:

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Claim 1 (previously amended): A composition of matter which consists of an anionic and a cationic starch wherein at least one of the starches is waxy starch, and said composition is at least slightly cationic.

Claim 2 (previously amended): A composition of matter according to claim 1 consisting of an anionic and a cationic starch, said composition having an anionic demand of lower than 200  $\mu\text{eq/l}$ .

C1 Claim 3 (original): A composition according to claim 1 wherein the anionic starch is oxidized waxy starch modified with maleic or succinic anhydride.

Claim 4 (original): A composition of matter according to claim 1 wherein the ratio of anionic to cationic starch is between 1 : 10 and 10 : 1 (w/w).

Claims 5-8 (canceled).

Claim 9 (previously added): A composition of matter according to claim 2, wherein said anionic demand is less than 100  $\mu\text{eq/l}$ .

Claim 10 (previously added): A composition of matter according to claim 1, wherein said composition has an anionic demand of less than 100  $\mu\text{eq/l}$ .

Claim 11 (previously added): A composition according to claim 1, wherein said composition is a dry blend of said anionic and cationic starch.

C1 Claim 12 (previously added): A composition according to claim 1, wherein said  
composition is a slurry.  
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